

MEMORANDUM

(X)  
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

~~SECRET-NODIS~~

October 13, 1973  
INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR BRENT SCOWCROFT

FROM: Harold E. Horan *10/3/73* *Thinks*  
SUBJECT: Visit to Sahel by Mrs. Nixon

Four of our six posts have responded to our query about the advisability of Mrs. Nixon's trip and copies are attached.

Embassy Ndjamena<sup>\*</sup> (Chad) advises strongly against a visit at this time because of Chad's determination to align itself with the Arab cause.

Embassy Bamako (Mali) says if war ends soon without ignominious defeat for the Arabs, Mali would welcome a visit, but announcement should be postponed until after fighting stops.

Embassy Niamey (Niger) is of a view similar to Bamako, but thinks President Diori would go through with a visit anyway if it is desired. The Embassy foresees security problems.

Embassy Dakar (Senegal) endorses the trip despite Middle East situation.

The reservations of the majority underscores our apprehensions about the trip at this time, and particularly about going public on it.

Attachments

*\* Used to be Fort Lamy but name changed recently.*